

MORIN WORRIES:

STUDENTS OCCUPY MINISTRY

by Peter Orr

Over 1,000 students representing 15 CEGEPs and universities in the Montreal region participated in a demonstration and a two-hour-long occupation of the Ministry of Education offices yesterday.

The purpose of the demonstration, organized by l'Association Nationale des Etudiants du Quebec (ANEQ), was to force the government to completely overhaul its loans and bursaries program. It was the largest student demonstration in Montreal since the sixties.

Students marched two miles from Carré St. Louis to the Ministry of Education offices on Fullum St. The students found the front doors locked and helmeted police to receive them. A route into the building via a basement workshop of Hydro-Quebec was discovered after 20 minutes of waiting and the entire cortege mounted ten flights of fire steps to an unlocked door which let them into the Ministry Information Services Bureau.

PEN (PEQ?)

Tous les journalistes du *Daily* sont invités à participer au Congrès de la PEN qui se tiendra en fin-de-semaine. Pour de plus amples renseignements venez voir Andrew Porter au *Daily*.

When they had settled in the plush partitioned offices, representatives of each school met. Morin was telephoned in Québec City. The situation was explained to him and ANEQ's demands put forth.

Morin's response was negative. He agreed to talk with several representatives of ANEQ but did not concede that there was anything to negotiate. He gave no guarantee that he would not authorize the riot squad to forcibly expel the students.

A second meeting was held. The ANEQ council decided to use passive resistance and to avoid provocation when dealing with the riot squad. An ANEQ delegate from CEGEP Vieux Montréal moved to end the occupation.

"We can't hold out here very long, it's better to return to our schools and occupy them. We can mobilize more students at our schools and plan further strategy in an emergency National Council meeting in Québec this weekend," she said. The motion passed unanimously.

The occupation ended with a speech by ANEQ representative Gregoire Creparia who criticized Morin for labelling bursaries as "privileges." He said the demand for bursaries is a struggle to abolish economic discrimination in education. "Education isn't a privilege, it's a right."

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Friday
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The McGill Daily

Canada's Only Students' Daily



Marie André

One thousand Montreal region students demonstrated for bursaries and occupied the Ministry of Education offices yesterday.

TAs getting shafted

by Ann Brocklehurst

The McGill Teaching Assistants Association (MTAA) is trying to get back on its feet after a year of inactivity. Acting association chairperson Pierre Laramee commented, "I was handed the MTAA file by Greg Claeys, who was the chief negotiator last year and told, 'Here, you're the MTAA now.'"

Laramee doesn't even know

how many TAs there are in the Arts faculty. He called a meeting of TAs at the beginning of the year but nobody showed up. Yesterday, however, fifteen TAs from five Arts departments attended a meeting.

Laramee wants every department to elect a representative to a central council. The council will act on behalf of the TAs but major decisions will have to be ratified by 50% of the member TAs.

Laramee would like to get things rolling as soon as possible since he feels time is a top priority.

"There are a lot of very pressing issues and if nothing is done about them this year it will probably be too late," he said. "There have been ominous signs that TAs next year are going to get the axe. TAs are a very low priority in terms of the faculty budgets."

Laramee would like to see the TAs get a contract. Currently they are working under terms negotiated in a 1976 agreement, which, Laramee feels, affords them little protection. He said that several departments are violating the terms of the agreement daily without fear of repercussions.

"The administration was laughing behind the backs of the TAs who signed the agreement. They knew it wasn't

worth the paper it was printed on," said Laramee.

The TAs would like to have hiring policies clarified. Said Laramee, "There is really no hiring process. The whole thing is totally mysterious." One TA noted that many TAs were rehired simply on the basis of how they got along with the professors.

Other TA grievances include the fact that their cost of living allowances (COLAs) are not as high as those of the professors, and that the student/TA ratio agreed upon in 1976 is not being adhered to in several departments and that there is no adequate definition of the TAs' job.

Laramee noted that the language departments brought in people from outside the university to perform TA jobs last year and because they didn't call them TAs, they paid them less salary. "That's a classic union-busting tactic," he said.

Yesterday's meeting ended with the TAs being dispatched to their various departments to stir up interest. Last year there was so little interest in the Association that it couldn't even touch its \$800 bank account. Quorum was never reached at meetings and consequently a signing officer could not be elected nor could the association vote to take action on any of the issues concerning it.



While Montrealers were blessed with their first snowfall yesterday many of our comrades in Siberia's holy goulag maintain that snowmen are only a manifestation of bourgeois capitalist society.

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WANTED: People to paint apartment. \$4.00/hr. Leave name & number with Gigi Rosenberg, in the Weekly office of the Daily, B3 Student Union.

Full-time person Friday wanted - to work in downtown Antique Gallery. Some French required. The successful candidate will be responsible and must have a neat appearance. Write c/o B. Marein, 250 Strathmore Blvd. Dorval P.Q. H9S 2J4.

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347 — Rooms, Apts., Housing

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348 — Lost & Found

LOST - Timid Little grey slamese. If found call 849-0845 Reward

LOST: Gold-rimmed prescription glasses in beige case, last Friday, probably in Redpath; Reward 364-2872

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354 — Notices

Want to rap with a Rabbi? Call Rabbi Israel Hausman 341-3580.

PEOPLE is having a Jewish toga party, Sun. Nov. 26 at 8:30 pm at 1459 St. Alexandre (corner Mayor). Info call Harry: 336-7431 or 332-6802.

Cross-Country & Alpine ski house Group needs 3 members, located Georgeville near Magog. Beginners welcome. 651-0329 evenings.

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Sat. Nov. 25

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7:00 & 9:30

\$1.25 L-132

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Standards lower in political science?

by Dianne S. Staruch

Lack of intellectual discipline is a widespread problem with students in McGill's Political Science Department, according to a recent Daily survey of professors. In one professor's words, intellectual discipline means "learning to size up a topic to see how it can be dealt with in a systematic way."

Yet, there is no consensus on the quality of undergraduate students in the department. Current students are showing an improvement over the downhill trend of recent years,

say professors who were questioned. Various professors in the department expressed differing opinions when asked to discuss academic standards today compared to those of ten years ago.

Professor Paul Noble, who has been with the department 15 years, said, "It is as difficult as ever to get an A." He estimated that less than 10% of a class gets As.

The number of Bs has risen. This, explained Noble, is because there are more B

minuses now instead of Cs. The chairperson of the department, Professor Kunz, said today's students are given the benefit of the doubt more than they were in the past. The career and grad school-oriented students of the 1970s are also more apt to haggle over marks.

Professor Janice Stein, who also taught at McGill during the sixties, said the standards of her introductory classes have had to be lowered. High standards are now a luxury, in her opinion.

Abilities of students have

come under fire in recent years. Stein agreed students have difficulty in expressing themselves in writing.

"People don't write on the point, not because they're trying to fool a professor," said Noble. "Rather, they genuinely are unable to reason intensely enough to identify the point and then address it."

Kunz added that a student's background knowledge obviously varies from course to course but in fields such as political philosophy, one finds examples of staggering ignorance. "Philosophical thought, which is the backbone of western civilization, should be familiar to students entering university. University is not the place for the gathering of this information."

Stein also feels there is a lack of familiarity with broad currents of history.

But the horizon is not all bleak. One political philosophy professor said he considers today's senior students better than those of the past. He gauged this in terms of students' apparent interest and intellectual energy. "Their language may be vulgar, lack sensibility and display a lack of background knowledge" but he does not see this as being different from before.

What about the quality of a student leaving with a BA from McGill in political science? "It's better," said Kunz. "An undergraduate from McGill with a first class honours degree will be accepted at any grad school in the western world."

As well as more diversified offerings, professors feel the level of courses has improved. Staff are able to offer more specialized courses and are no longer forced to go into less familiar areas.

In the past there was more of a consensus about what the core of a political science programme should be. Honours students were told to take 3 or 4 specific courses, whereas now there is an overlapping core. Students are required to take twelve credits of related work. The effect has been that graduates come out with a greater knowledge of specialized areas but with less general knowledge.

Students appear to be

working harder than their predecessors of a decade ago. Work demands made of students are greater. With a large number of the courses reduced to a half year, students must write double the amount of papers and read twice as much.

There are many more students per faculty member now. Political science has increased in popularity yet budgetary constraints have not allowed expansion of the staff at the same rate.

In 1969, with the advent of the prerequisite CEGEP degree, an honours or majors programme was reduced from four to three years. Prof. Noble believes that without that extra year of university students tend to be finishing their time at McGill with disparate abilities.

Previously a student spent his first year in general courses. This gave the department the opportunity to be more discriminating when selecting candidates for the honours programme. Now, screening is less reliable because people's backgrounds are so varied.

Students are more reluctant to enter honours. At least one-third of honours students switch to majors after the first year but about the same number of second-year registered majors students are invited by the department to switch into honours.

The number of advisors assigned to majors has increased from one to three to accommodate the change.

Have budget cuts hurt the quality of professors? Not yet said Noble. Most of the political science professors were hired before budget constrictions became acute. No new teaching positions have been added in three or four years. The department has only hired permanent or transitory replacements.

In the long run, universities in general will probably suffer because bright students will opt out of academics and choose instead to go into professional schools. Also, with job security more tenuous, staff members will be increasingly inclined to stay, which means less of an infusion of new thinkers than in the past.

Today

Community McGill:

Volunteers are needed to be Big Brothers, Big Sisters or tutors. If you are interested please contact us. Union rm 408, 392-8937.

Femina flick:

The 30-minute film *The Lady from Grey County*, portraying the personal courage and political achievements of Agnes MacPhail, Canada's first woman MP, will be shown today at 1 pm in the West Lounge of RVC, University and Sherbrooke. FREE, all welcome.

Friday Night Supper:

Good food and friendly company at the Newman Centre every Friday at 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome! Cost: \$1.50, 3484 Peel St.

Hillel Brunch:

A Sunday brunch of bagels and cream cheese Nov. 26, 10:30 am, \$1.50, 3460 Stanley St. discussion starts 11:15 am with Prof Hal Waller on Jewish Community Polity, Democracy vs Elitism.

Camera Club:

All darkroom assistants are urged to pick up their darkroom keys from Earle Taylor today in the Students' Society Office (beside Sadle's) before 3 pm.

Debating Union:

There will be novice training today at 3 in B16 to improve debating skills.

Economic Seminar:

Maurice Marchon of the Centre des Hautes Etudes Commerciales will talk on "Money Growth, Inflation and Output Trade-Off in Canada and in the US." Leacock 31, 3-5 pm today.

Economics Students' Association:

General Meeting at 3 pm in Leacock 212 to pass constitutional amendments.

Evening of Greek poetry and music:

Presented by McGill Hellenic Association "Dionidis Komninos" in Union rm 310 at 7:30 pm. Poems by G. Seferis, Y. Ritsos, O. Elytes.

Fall concert — massed choirs:

The Gallery Choir of the Unitarian Church of Montreal and the choir of the Erskine and American Church, under the direction of Pauline Bentham and Barry Turley, will present a Fall Concert Sunday, November 26 at 8 pm. William Byrd's *Mass for Five Voices* and Randall Thompson's *The Peaceable Kingdom*. At Erskine and American United Church, Sherbrooke West at Crescent. Info: 849-3286.

Faculty of Music free concerts:

Recital Room C-209 6 pm: Brass Quintets. Coaches: James Thompson & Ellis Wean. Works by Roberts, Jones, Dahl, Duka, Bach, Calvert. Pollack Concert Hall 8:30 pm: Faculty Choir, directed by Eugene Plawutsky assisted by ensemble & 2 pianos. Liszt: Missa Choralis; Berio: Magnificat.

Pope John Paul II:

Work and achievement in light of the position of the Catholic Church in Poland, panel presentation and discussion, 7 pm. Education Faculty rm 129. Sponsored by Polish Students' Assoc.

McGill English Department Drama Program:

MEG by Paula Vogel,

directed by Patrick Neilson & Veronica Brady. Moyses Hall, Arts Bldg today and Saturday at 8:30 pm. Matinee: Wed, Nov 29 at 1:00 pm, \$2.00. Tickets: \$3.00 (gen. public) \$2.00 (students) at Sadle's, Arts 155 and Morrice Hall "C". For more info 392-5000/4637.

Undergraduate Mathematics Society:

Professor M. Barr will speak on "A History of Category Theory" at 3:30 pm in rm 1214 of Burnside Hall. All undergraduates (and others) are welcome.

McGill Badminton Club:

Tomorrow the Inter-Club Program resumes at 1:30 pm with Men's and Ladies' doubles. All competitors must attend if they wish to qualify for our next Inter-Club meet on Nov 29. The Men's Intercollegiate Team will practice at 3 pm.

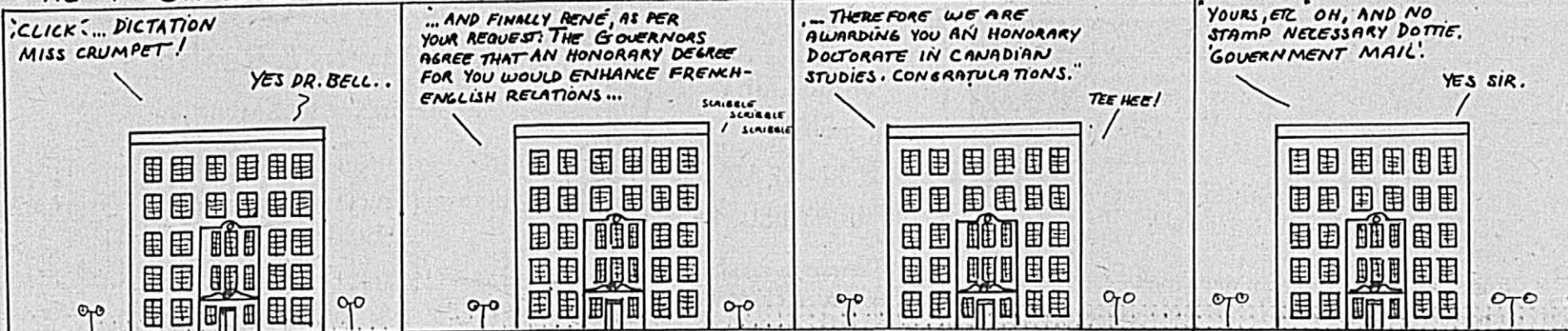
Centre for Developing-Area Studies:

Prof. Robert W. Shirley, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Toronto, will speak on "Legal Structures and Early Industrial Development: England and Brazil" in the seminar room (C103E) of the Macdonald-Harrington Building at 3 pm.

McGill Film Society:

6:30 and 9:30 in FDAA *The New Land* with Max von Sydow and Liv Ullmann is being shown. Directed by Jan Troell. Admission: \$1.25. The last film of this semester's schedule, *Casablanca*, is being shown on Saturday night. Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergman, and Claude Rains star in this film and Michael Curtis directs. 7 and 9:30 for \$1.25 in L132.

The INSIDERS...



Improving Martlets outclassed by Isles 3-0

by Don Di Maulo
As Anacron (550 B.C.) once said, "By trying you shall learn." Well, the McGill Martlets are trying and learning but they're still losing, this time 3-0 at the hands of the first place John Abbott Islanders.

Despite playing their best hockey game of the season, the hapless Martlets remain winless, having lost four games of four.

The John Abbott team took advantage of sloppy play by McGill in the first period to score all three goals. Islanders' Corinne Corcoran clicked early in the game on a shot from close in after teammate Sandra Stones had won the face-off.

Moments later, Corcoran made it 2-0 on what was the nicest goal of the game. Taking advantage of her speed to break away from the McGill defence, Corcoran made a beautiful deke and slid the puck past a sprawled Laura Drover.

After executing some remarkable saves off a multitude of John Abbott forwards, notably on a high rising drive from the slot by

Maureen Maloney and a point blank shot by Jackie Blanchard, Drover fell victim to another goal, the game's last. Anne Marie Thomas scored on a weak shot which bounced off two Martlet defencewomen before slipping behind the goalie.

John Abbott continued to shoot at will but were time and time again mystified by "Moses" Drover.

The McGill squad came out skating in the second period. Unfortunately, that's all they did as the Islanders outshot them 12-0. The Martlets were repeatedly caught up ice when trying to apply pressure on opposing goalie Mindy Ridgway. Had it not been for Drover, the Islanders could easily have added to their lead.

The final stanza was easily the Martlets' best but not good

enough and so at the sound of the buzzer the score remained 3-0 for John Abbott. Final shots on goal read 34-3 in favour of the visitors.

Despite their losing streak, the prospects for the club are good. They are continuously improving and as Lord Avebury once said "All things come to those who wait".

Martlet Memos: Game's four starlets: 1-Corinne Corcoran (John Abbott), 2-Laura Drover (McGill), 3-Paddy Maloney (John Abbott), 4-Madeleine Racicot (McGill)...honorable

mention: McGill's Denise Lavigne and Abbott's Maureen Maloney.

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For info, call Peter at 286-0964.

Evening of Music, Poetry and Dance

Sat., Nov. 25, 8 pm
3480 McTavish
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Pat Kelly
visual poet

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McGill Modern Dance Club

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